THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) A proposal to set up a Judicial Commission to investigate the allegations of Government functionaries- militant nexus rs under consideration of the Govemment. No final decision in the matter has yet been taken by the Government.

Safeguarding the Life and Property of Sikbj in J&K

1192. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:
S ARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state what sort of assistance/aid have been given by the Central Government to the State Government of J&K to protect and safeguard the life and property of Sikh community from the terrorist/militant onslaughts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRl CHENNAMANENIVIDYASAGAR RAO): Pan-Islamic outfits operating in J&K keep trying to create a communal divide by resorting to in-group killing of members of minority communities and thereby creating an atmosphere of fear with the aim to ethnic cleansing and forcing their exodus. To prevent it, the State Govemment have taken various preventive/confidence building measures which *inter-alia* include:

— Strengthening the Village Defence Committee system by providing them Training and improved weaponary and communication equipment;

— Strengthening the security grid around the minority inhabited villages;

— Increased frequency of patrolling by security forces of sensitive and vulnerable areas;

— Visits by State Government and security force officers to remote and minority villages.

After the incidents of Mehjoor Nagar, the State Government had further reviewed the security arrangements for minorities and remote and scattered population. In addition there is a constant monitoring of the security situation by the respective Unified Headquarters level at Jammu & Srinagar as well as in Operations groups at various lower levels with a view to dynamic deployment and adoption of strategies by the security forces to meet the various challenges being thrown up by the terrorists.

Government of India continues to provide support to the State Government and the security forces in their efforts, and also regularly reviews and monitors the security situation.

Tracing of Stolen Car*

1193. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to reply given in the Rajya Sabha to Starred Question 455 on 20th December, 2000 and state:

(a) what further efforts have been made to trace the stolen cars in the Rajouri Garden area of New Delhi and with what results;

(b) whether owners of the stolen cars have been informed of the status of the inquiries conducted in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENIVIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a)The efforts made by Delhi Police to trace the remaining vehicles stolen in the month of March, 2000 in the area of Rajouri Garden Police Station include surveillance on known auto thieves suspected to be operating in the area; interrogation of auto thieves arrested in different parts of the city; and deployment of police personnel in plain clothes to maintain vigil in the area. Though these measures resulted in lesser number of auto thefts in the area during the year 2000 as compared to the preceding year, the remaining six vehicles stolen in March, 2000 could not be so far traced.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Deaths due to negligence and rash driving

1194. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether deaths due to negligence and rash driving of School buses and heavy vehicles have increased during the last six months;

(b) if so, the details of casualties on this account;

(c) whether any strict action has been taken against the guilty drivers and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether some drivers found guilty are having two or three driving licences; and